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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER	
BARQADLE, YASIN M	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2153	

DATE MAILED: 06/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/741,230	ALLEN, DOWELL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yasin M Barqadle	2153	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *20 December 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-9 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Zinky et al, Visualizing Packet Traces, (hereinafter ``Zinky'').

As per claim 1, Zinky teaches a distributed system for decoding telecommunication tracer information originating from any telecommunication network element and utilizing any industry standard or proprietary telecommunication protocol (figs 2 and 3), comprising:

a CDL based trace decoding software tool that executes on an application server that is deployed within a distributed network (software tap are distributed on network nodes fig. 5) for

decoding trace data provided by any telecommunication network element (transform/decode raw data into text pp. 295, ¶ 9-10), wherein the trace data for a particular telecommunication network element is produced by a tracer and is comprised of a plurality of individual events utilizing one or more telecommunication protocols (protocol analyzer parses headers contained in the packet for necessary information pp. 295, ¶ 1-3 & pp. 296, ¶ 2-3. see also pp. 298, ¶ 1),

an encoder that creates and stores in a file system a plurality of executable CDL programs used to decode the trace data (trace records are generated pp. 295, ¶ 2-3), any particular telecommunication protocol being defined by one or more said CDL programs (fig. 2 and pp. 295, ¶ 2-3 & 10);

a plurality of client workstations connected to the distributed network wherein each of the said workstations can access one or more application servers (users connect trace data remotely (pp. 294, ¶ 3-4), each said application server having a CDL and signature (headers in the packet) based decoder engine that is capable of invoking one or more of said executable CDL programs to decode the trace data [pp. 302, ¶ 10-12 & pp. 295, ¶ 8-10]; and

a graphical user interface for each of said plurality of client workstations that receives an output from said CDL and signature based decoder engine and displays the decoded results in a consistent format across all said tracers whose trace data

is decodable by said software tool [decoded results are displayed in the format shown in fig. 2].

As pr claim 2, Zinky teaches distributed system for decoding telecommunication tracer information of claim 1, said system having a plurality of application servers [pp. 298, ¶ 1 and pp. 303, ¶ 6].

As per claim 3, Zinky teaches the distributed system for decoding telecommunications tracer information of claim 2, wherein said trace decoding software tool accommodates growth in said library of CDL encoded catalogs of telecommunications protocols [pp. 295, ¶ 1-2 and 8-9].

As per claim 5, Zinky teaches the distributed system for decoding telecommunications tracer information of claim 2, wherein said trace decoding software tool provides context sensitive information for the plurality of events in said plurality of trace data [see fig. 2].

As per claim 7, Zinky teaches the distributed system for decoding telecommunications tracer information of claim 2, wherein tracer diagnostics within a domain can be centrally administered from any client workstation that has access to all application servers that reside in the domain, said domain being supported by both

the distributed network structure and the configuration of the said application servers [Fig. 1 and 5 pp. 295, ¶ 1-3].

As per claim 8, Zinky teaches a distributed and scalable system for collaborative decoding of telecommunications tracer information originating from a plurality of network elements on a network and using a plurality of telecommunications protocols (remote collection of packet traces fig. 1), comprising:

an integrated trace analysis system (iTAS) application, said application containing one or more Catalog Definition Language (CDL) catalogs, each said protocol being defined by one or more CDL catalogs [fig. 2 and pp. 295, ¶ 1-2 & ¶ 8-10];

an iTAS relational database, said database being used to store said catalogs and provide said iTAS application with configuration parameters and administrative services [trace records are collected from a tap of communication line to be analyzed fig. 4, pp. 299, ¶ 7-8];

one or more iTAS domains, each said domain further comprising one or more iTAS application servers having near identical iTAS data in their respective file systems and databases (see fig.2 and 4), wherein said iTAS application has a CDL based decoder engine, said decoder engine being reentrant and wherein said iTAS application is deployed using distributed computing technology and using a client/server architecture [fig. 5 and pp. 295, ¶ 2-3 & 10].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4, 6 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zinky et al, Visualizing Packet Traces, (hereinafter ``Zinky'') in view of Drumm et al USPN (6643683).

As per claim 6, Zinky teaches distributed system for decoding telecommunications tracer information of claim 2, wherein said trace decoding software tool is **so** deployed within a distributed computing network [software tap are distributed on network nodes. see fig. 5. and pp. 298, ¶ 1].

Although Zinky shows substantial features of the claimed invention, he does not explicitly show multiple users collaborating on the diagnosis of captured trace data. Nonetheless, this feature is well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Zinky, as evidenced by Drumm et al USPN. (6643683).

In analogous art, Drumm et al whose invention is about interactive client-server environment for performing collaborative timing analysis of circuit designs, disclose a method where multiple designers (users) collaborate on the analysis of timing data generated by a timing analysis engine [Col. 2, lines 43-65]. Giving the teaching of Drumm et al, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and the advantage of modifying Zinky by employing the system of Drumm et al in order to facilitate collaborative timing analysis of circuit design by multiple users [Col. 2, lines 43-47].

As per claim 4, Drumm et al as modified in claim 6 teach, wherein each of said plurality of client workstations can have concurrent access to the decoding services provided by a single application server, access concurrency being accomplished by reentrant code in said executable CDL programs [Col. 4, lines 53-61 and col. 9, lines 9-45].

As per claim 9, Drumm et al as modified in claim 6 above teach the invention, wherein trace decoded trace information is stored in said iTAS relational database for collaborative sharing between multiple users [Col. 2, lines 43-65 and col. 9, lines 9-45].

Conclusion

The prior made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 703-305-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Yasin Barqadle
Art Unit 2153

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